

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 15-18 are requested to be cancelled.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 10 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-14 (14 claims) are now pending in this application.

The Office Action of September 22, 2004 and the references cited therein have been considered. In response to the objection to the claims, the Applicants have made appropriate corrections to the typographical and grammatical errors cited by the Examiner. Also, the Applicants have corrected the drawings and provide further comments with respect to the drawings. As demonstrated, however, each of the objections is believed overcome with the application being placed in condition for allowance. Accordingly reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

On page 2, the Examiner reiterates the restriction requirement and acknowledges that a telephone conversation was held, with the undersigned on September 14, 2004 in which the undersigned elected, with traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-14. The undersigned hereby affirms that election and requests that claims 15-18, which were withdrawn in the above mentioned telephone conversation be canceled at this time. However, Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application to further prosecute the claims 15-18. Applicants submit that there is no change in the inventorship as a result of the restriction requirement.

On page 3, the Examiner has objected to Fig. 1 because of a lead line with no reference number in the lower right hand corner. In response, Applicants have amended Fig. 1 by adding the reference number "14" to the lead line. Applicant submits that this is an extension of the insulation panel identified in the upper left hand corner of Fig. 1 and corresponds to the identification of the insulation panel in Fig. 5.

On page 4, the Examiner has objected to the drawings as not showing the "telescoping bus joint cover assembly". In response, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to element number 58 shown in Fig. 5 and discussed in paragraphs 13 and 19 of the specification.

On page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the drawings in that they do not include the reference number "25" identified as a horizontal bus bar joint. In response, Applicants have amended Fig. 1 to point out the horizontal bus bar joint illustrated in the lower phase of the assembly. Discussion of the horizontal bus bar joint can be found in paragraph 19 of the specification.

On page 5, the Examiner has objected to the drawings because the Examiner believes that the referenced character "30" has been used to designate both the bus joint cover assembly and the channel bus splice assembly. In response, Applicants point out that the bus joint cover assembly is identified as element 58 and is shown in Fig. 5. The channel bus splice assembly is identified as element 30 and is illustrated in Fig. 1. Applicants point out that the channel bus splice assembly 30 is covered by the bus joint cover assembly 58 and refers the Examiner to Figs. 1 and 5.

In light of the above comments and corrections, Applicants submit that the drawings now comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.83 and §1.84 and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his objections to the drawings. For convenience of the Examiner, Applicants have included an amended drawing sheet (depicting Fig. 1 and Fig. 2) with red ink showing the amendments to Fig. 1. Also enclosed is a replacement sheet with the corrections in black ink.

On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner has identified various typographical errors and grammatical errors in claims 1, 4, 5, 8, and 10. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 10 to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner, with the exception of one change requested by the Examiner in claim 8. The Examiner believes that the word "thread" should be "threaded". However, Applicant respectfully submits that the word "thread" as originally written in claim 8 is proper and therefore that term has not been changed. Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims are to correct informalities of typographical errors or grammatical errors and that no new matter has been added. Applicants thank the Examiner for his diligence in reviewing this application.

On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 1-14 would be allowable if the objections are overcome. Applicants submit that the objections have been overcome with the amendment and comments. Accordingly, the application should be allowed. The prior art cited by the Examiner but not relied upon has been reviewed.

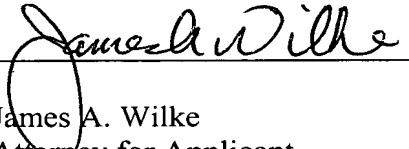
Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11-17-04

By 

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The drawing sheet or sheets attached in connection with the above-identified application containing Figure(s) 1 is being presented as a new formal drawing sheet or sheets to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet or sheets. The drawing figure 1 has been amended. Appended to this amendment is an annotated copy of the previous drawing sheet which has been marked in red to show changes presented in the replacement sheet of the drawing.

The specific changes which have been made to Figure 1 are: adding the element number "25" pointing at the joint between one set of horizontal channel busses; adding the element number "14" to the lead line in the lower right hand corner.

